

DAILY CONFEDERATE.

D. K. MCRAE, Editor.

All letters on business of the Office, to be directed to A. M. GORMAN & CO.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1865.

Newspaper.

Subscription and Advertising.

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Tri-Weekly six months,	30
Weekly three months,	10
Weekly six months,	20
Advertising per square,	5

The office of the *Confederate* needs an associate Editor and general business manager and superintendent, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of A. M. Gorman, Esq. Applications will be received to fill this vacancy. Those applying must be practical Printers, and of sufficient experience to take the management of a large concern, with ability to give suitable references.

Address, EDITOR CONFEDERATE.

Example.

It was incumbent on the representatives of the people to set a good example to the people. Legislation is as necessary as fighting. Our government, unhappily for a period of war, has diffused its strength through so many channels, that instead of one torrent, strong enough to carry a powerful machinery, they are obliged to use many and petty streams, and adapt the machinery to the power of propulsion that we are able to gather to a head.

But, there was much that legislation could have done; and such a field for statesmanship the world has never seen! A field fruitful to the harvest, but without the hand to wield the sickle. Here, in North Carolina, there was so much of usefulness which might have been accomplished: The organization of a State force; measures for the arrest of deserters; for the prevention of outrages, which shock the public sensibility from day to day—which outrages culminate in robbery and murder—until there is not a county where the blood of some good citizen has not been spilled; measures for the improvement of travel and transportation, by which the gross neglect and criminal abuses of railroad companies would be corrected; measures by which the loose, extravagant and unnecessary departments, which have grown up in the State, could have been dispensed with—at least investigated, and held to account; proper and adequate, and well digested revenue measures. All these things, and more, merited the attention of the Legislature; and ought to have furnished occupation for a laborious session.

It is true, there were several highly intelligent men in the Legislature, and very true and loyal men, but they were powerless—Their voices carried no weight; they were in a dead minority, where party held unmilitated sway. On the other hand, the Legislature fell into the hands of a set—a set of jaundiced, narrow-minded, political partisans—and the result was, that, days, weeks, and months were consumed, at enormous expense to the State, in windy, flatulent speeches—the allies of windy flatulent resolutions—denying a political stomach of the most dyspeptic cast.

Habeas corpus was debated and resolved upon, until the ghosts of the ancient fathers, who had a hand in the organization of the constitutional prescriptions about *habeas corpus*, yelled and shrieked from beyond the grave, at the ludicrous and nonsensical patches and plasters which had been put on their work.

Impression.—Here was food for profound philosophy—one hundred and seventy-five pounds of it—solid weight. Impression was demonstrated to be governmental robbery, the reason of the thing being illustrated in this wise:—as though a man were to hunt out a plan by which he might fill more offices and places of trust than the constitution allowed, and on these get salaries two or more, and evade the service. This would be fair and legal. Therefore, the seizure of a horse, or a mule, under a law of Congress—according to the conditions prescribed by the law—this is robbery. See Hodges' logic, or "Hollow on constitutional Law" page.

And so, under these leaders, the labors of three months, at fifty dollars a day and mileage, wound up with a bill to "promote the *deficiency*" of the Home Guard, the appointment of sixteen hundred Justices of the Peace—Yankees, deserters, boys under age, and refugees from counties occupied by the enemy; the appointment of Mr. Sam'l F. Phillips to any quantity of auditing of blockade accounts; and, the promotion of Surgeon Gen. Warren to be Brigadier General.

In the agonies of this last labor, the Legislature expired. When people come to look back upon it—our children, or their children—it will be with intense curiosity. Nothing like it existed, among Jews or Gentiles, Christians or barbarians.

If there be ought under the sun, which may be compared with it, by approximation, it is the Confederacy's Congress. That body met in November. It is now near March. It met at the close of a long and bloody campaign, just at the time for strengthening the exhausted military resources, and preparing for the campaign. It could not be blind to the dangers, and necessities of the country; for the cannon of the enemy was booming in their ears, and the flag of his army was flaunting before their eyes. Had Congress passed the measures asked for by the Government—or similar measures, or any proper measures—Sherman would never have seized Savannah. Fort Fisher would never have fallen. South Carolina would not now groan under

the tread of the invaders. By prompt legislation, Congress could have re-organized the army, paid the soldiers, brought back the absentees, established the currency, and restored the public confidence. Instead thereof, it has talked, debated and disputed, and talked, until now the preparations of the enemy, for the campaign about to begin, are well nigh completed, while Gen. Lee has been left to employ to the best advantage the material he has on hand.

It would be well for legislators to read the consequence of their delay, in the light of accomplished facts. If we have lost part of the Confederacy, and sacrificed thereby the ample means it gave us for victory, it is because Congress failed to bring out the strength which the State itself could have afforded, to arrest the catastrophe. Unless this thing be changed, and more prompt, more actual aid, be given by Congress to the Executive, the cause will be lost—lost in shame and sorrow; and the men who, by this non-action, have been kept unstrongened and un reinforced, will be sacrificed. This is plain language; but it is true, and ought to be plainly spoken.

We devote considerable space in to-day's issue to the proceedings of meetings held by our soldiers in the field. Those we publish, and indeed, every meeting that has been held, breathe a lofty and patriotic devotion to the Confederate cause, and declare an unalterable determination to continue the struggle until our independence is achieved.

Let the people be true to themselves, and our armies will stand by and defend them to the last. The battle-scarred and war-worn legions that bear on their banners names as proud and full of deep, historic interest as ever gave immortality to a nation, will never sacrifice the future by forfeiting the glories of the past. They will never abandon a cause that has been watered by so much precious blood. They will never bear the sight of maimed and wounded comrades begging bitter bread through a conquered land, which their valor tried in vain to save. Never, no never, will they give up a cause, the abandonment of which places them before the world as men who admit that Jackson died a traitor, and that Lee deserves a halter.

At a meeting of the citizens of Mecklenburg county, held in Charlotte, N. C. on the 16th inst., a committee appointed to present some plan for home defence, made the following report:

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Feb. 16, 1865.

The committee appointed to present a plan for an organization for home defence, submit the following report, viz: They find that in the organization of the armies of the Confederate States, to resist invasion by the Federal forces all the active and able-bodied young men of the country, whose circumstances enabled them to do so, responded promptly to the first call to arms, and now constitute the main strength of the Confederate forces; that in order to strengthen and reinforce these armies, all the able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 45 years, have been called by the laws of Congress, and are now in service; that to provide a more immediate defense for our homes, all those able to bear arms, between 17 and 50 years, have been organized into what is known as the Home Guard, which is intended for the defense of the country within the limits of the State. They find that the only remaining material of which our organization may be formed to aid in the common struggle for independence for ourselves and posterity, and the only material of which immediate and lasting service, consist of those citizens who have passed the age of fifty years, but whose vigorous constitutions will enable them to bear arms, in short periods of service, within the limits of their county, or voluntarily in adjoining counties or elsewhere, and those citizens who have been exempt from service in the regular army on account of disability, but who are, nevertheless, able to perform the duty herein contemplated. Your committee believe that in that class of citizens an effective force can be formed for auxiliary defense, which will organize the mounted infantry or other troops, in the second class of guard for home defense, which duty is confined to the limits of the county in which they reside. Your committee recommend that this organization be prepared for at once, by having the names of all who will thus volunteer, enrolled; and that to effect this, two active citizens be appointed in each neighborhood, who shall present the list for signature to every man in their neighborhood, and who shall keep a list of all who refuse to volunteer; and that both lists be reported at the time the volunteers meet for organization; that this volunteer force meet in Charlotte, on Monday, the 20th inst., and organize by the election of officers.

The report of the committee was received and adopted, and a committee of two from each captain's district was appointed to carry out and effect the organizations recommended.

The meeting also recommended that similar organizations be formed in all the counties of the State.

The people of Mecklenburg have gone to work in earnest, and we suggest to the people every where to follow their example.

Wake County Court is in session this week. We learn that on yesterday J. F. Hutchins, Esq., the present incumbent, was re-elected County Trustee by a plurality vote over all his opponents. The Magistrates also elected W. W. Holden, W. H. Harrison, W. H. Hood, R. C. Badger and Nathan Ivey, Magistrates of the Special Court. Joe Hayes was also elected County Commissioner, to attend to furnishing provisions to soldier's wives.

GENERAL JOHNSTON'S REPORT.—General Johnston's report of his campaign from Dalton to Atlanta was on Friday last made public by the Confederate Senate and ordered to be printed. The publication of this report will give a fresh impetus to the great Bragg, Johnston, Hood controversy which, for six months, has engrossed so much of the attention of the press and the country.

In connection with the enemy's advance into our State, the Sumter *Watchman* learns that immense quantities of corn fell into his hands, which had been hoarded and denied to the *rebel*, and at last it fell into the hands of the Yankees. And a soldier informs us, that his regiment was for some time near a plantation whose owner refused even to sell any of his bacon to our troops, although he had a large quantity on hand, and not until the enemy advanced and our men became engaged, did he offer to sell. It was then too late, and no doubt the enemies of his country tell him to his bacon. All this is humiliating, and should not be repeated. Those who have surplus provisions should share them with their less fortunate neighbors, for who knows how soon the whole of it may be swept away by the ruthless Joe.—*Chas. Courier*,

A letter from Calcutta to the London *Times*, says that not less than sixty thousand persons were drowned, or otherwise killed by the terrible, cyclonic storm which swept that country.

Lieut. J. Taylor Wood, C. S. N., has been promoted to the rank of Captain, for meritorious services.—*Rich. Sentinel*.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RELIEF OF MAILED SOLDIERS.

—We have received a pamphlet entitled a "Brief Review of the plans and operations of the Association for the relief of Maimed Soldiers," containing a list of officers, and a history of the Association—together, with a good deal of useful information and instructions to maimed soldiers. The President of the Association is Rev. C. R. Marshall, D. D., of Miss., Treasurer, H. McFarland, of Richmond, Va., Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Wm. A. Carrington, Medical Director C. S. A., Richmond, Va.; Hon George Davis, of this State, is one of the Vice Presidents, and W. C. Bee & Co., of Wilmington, N. C. is one of the Association's financial agents.

The object of the Association is to supply artificial limbs gratis to all officers, soldiers and seamen who have been maimed in the service of the Confederate States; and to furnish to them such mechanical compensation of other lost parts of the human body, as may be practicable.

The Association was formed over twelve months ago, and a constitution and officers elected for one year.

The constitution provides for the co-operation of all persons favorable to its object, and contemplated aid or contribution from Municipal, State, and Confederate Governments, yet it was designed to appeal principally to benevolent and patriotic Confederate citizens, to unite and present to each of the deprived of their limbs, an artificial limb not as an act of charity, but of esteem, respect and gratitude.

The subscription of \$10 annually, constitutes a member; of \$300, a life member, and of \$1,000, an Honorary Director of the Association, R. M. S. All members are entitled to take part in the proceedings, and vote at the annual election of officers of the Association.

The total receipts during the last year amounted to \$113,464; during the same time its expenditures were \$122,958, deficit \$9,494. Its present expenditures are for about seventy-five per month:

Governor Z. B. Vance, of North Carolina, has promised to pay the cost of all limbs furnished by the Association to soldiers of the State, and the same will be paid by the State.

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It is the intention of the Association to appoint State agents to solicit and collect funds, but as yet, only two have been appointed. North Carolina has no State agency, therefore, all contributions or subscriptions should be sent to express by Wm. H. McFarland, Treasurer, Richmond, Va.

The Association furnishes at present only artificial legs to applicants, as the Directors have been unable to find persons who can manufacture suitable artificial arms.

Maimed soldiers, desiring to receive the benefits of the Association, can obtain all useful information by addressing the Corresponding Secretary of the Association, Dr. Wm. A. Carrington, Medical Director, C. S. A., at Richmond, Va.

CAPTURE OF A FAMOUS CONFEDERATE SCOUT.—We copy the following account of the capture of Sergeant Wm. M. Waterbury, 3rd North Carolina Cavalry, from the Richmond *Enquirer*:

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